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Our Hemisphere Policy

Government Criticized for Utilizing
Batista Official

STATINTL

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:
As an organization which protested vigorously the atrocities against freedom committed in Cuba by Batista, and which now is similarly protesting Castro's violations of civil and political liberties, we note with relief that Col. Mariano Faget, Batista secret-police official, has been dismissed from his screening duties in Florida. Tad Szulc has rendered a real service in exposing his situation.

However, we continue to be shocked as we see how little our government officials have profited from past errors. Is it possible that our responsible officials do not understand the unmoral policy of utilizing men who are infamous for their past brutalities and lack of conscience; or are we callous to the effect of these policies on our Latin-American friends or to the weapons they offer to our enemies?

The writer has just returned from South America with a disheartening sense of the crucial problems before us. These arise not only from the attacks of communism and Fidel Castro. They arise as much from the failure of the presumably enlightened forces there and in the United States to challenge such attacks through high principles and through implementation worthy of the plans outlined by President Kennedy.

If we wish to demonstrate to Latin America our sincerity in aiding its struggle for democracy and for political, social and economic well-being, we can hardly continue to make common cause with such dodgy instruments as the Colonel Faget and the Porfirio Rubirosas anywhere in the Americas.

Is it possible that the C. I. A. has illegally pre-empted the prerogatives of the Department of State in defining our hemisphere policy at this critical hour?

FRANCES R. GRANT,
Secretary General, Inter-American
Association for Democracy and
Freedom,
New York, Oct. 24, 1961.

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